

- 7 In 2000, Al Gore got about 500,000 more votes than George W. Bush did. The winner of the popular vote was clear. So how did George W. Bush win? He **had more electoral votes** than Al Gore did. The **electoral college** represents the states. For all states except Maine and Nebraska, members of the electoral college vote for the candidate who **wins the majority of votes in their states**. It's our states' representatives in the electoral college who elect the President.
- 8 Is the electoral college unnecessary? Maybe. **One thing that is definite** is the need for more citizens to vote. About 206 million Americans could have **voted in the 2006 election**. Only about half of them did. Whether we're part of an Athenian or a representative democracy, our votes count only if we cast them.

1. Which question is answered in the introduction of the passage?

- A What is a voice vote?
- B How does a town meeting work?
- C Where did democracy begin?
- D Is there more than one form of democracy?

2. How are a vote in a club and a vote at a town meeting similar?

- F Both are used as a way to raise taxes.
- G Both are examples of Athenian democracy.
- H Both are examples of representative democracy.
- J Both use paper ballots.

3. What information is included in the chart but *not* in the article?

- A The names of the candidates for President in 2000
- B The winner of the 2000 Presidential election
- C The number of electoral votes for each candidate in the 2000 Presidential election
- D The winner of the popular votes in the 2000 Presidential election

4. Which of the following books would be the *best* choice for learning more about the main ideas presented in this passage?

- F *George W. Bush: My Autobiography*
- G *The Complete Book of Greek Myths*
- H *Democracy Then and Now*
- J *The Student Council Handbook*